The Clarion

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photo by Neil Olufsen

Principal Charles King escorts Governor Florio to the podium.

Students take off hats: new policy in effect

by Mark Staloff

Under a new rule instituted this year, students are no longer permitted to wear hats inside the school building during the school day. Principal Charles King cited safety hazards, behavioral problems, and consistency with the rules at Churchill Junior High School as reasons behind the regulation, commonly referred to as the "hat policy."

The hat policy originated in Churchill JHS, where Principal Robert Jandernal introduced it last year. The administration decided to add the rule to the dress code at the high school after careful consideration of the advantages and disadvantages.

When asked about the reasoning behind the decision, Mr. King said, "There was a question of safety in classes such as the science labs, technology, and physical education. We have to maintain a consistent policy among all classes or else we have students singling out some teachers as 'good' or 'bad' based on whether or not they permit the wearing of hats in class."

He also recalled two or three fights due to hats. Although no one was injured, they were still a major disruption.

Mr. King felt that the new policy was no major inconvenience to students. He noted, "I have seen some students take their hats off and clip them onto their belts when they come in to school and put them back on as they leave." Mr. King summarized his position by saying, "There are appropriate places to wear a hat and there are some places that are not appropriate for hats. Inside a school is not an appropriate place."

Student opinion on the hat policy ranged from apathy to anger. Several students felt that the hat policy had little effect on them and therefore they had no problem with it. Other students were more upset with the new rule.

Sophomore Charles Ko said, "I think it is stupid because [wearing a hat] has no overall bearing concerning any of the academic aspects of school."

Sophomore Ryan Newcomb also commented, "Wearing hats in class is not disruptive and we should be allowed to wear them in school."

To date, the administration has had few disciplinary problems with students disobeying the rule. If a student is caught wearing a hat in school, he or she first receives a warning. It they continue to wear the hat, they are assigned a detention. Mr. Tantillo stated that, "Most students are cooperative." He has only had to assign one detention so far.

Florio commends blue ribbon school

by Cheryl Weiss

Governor Jim Florio led a delegation of honored guests in presenting East Brunswick High School with a Flag of Excellence October 9th.

The flag reflected the honor the school received in winning the Blue Ribbon award for excellence in education.

The purpose of the contest was to recognize schools that "provide an exceptionally good atmosphere conducive to learning."

During the hour and fifteen minute presentation, Dr. John Kopko, superintendent of schools, expressed his congratulations to the students, faculty and parents who made the award possible. Additionally, Neal Rosen, vice-president of the Board of Education, and East Brunswick Mayor Jack Sinagra spoke of the tremendous accomplishments EBHS has earned over the past years.

EBHS was one of four schools in the state and two hundred and twenty-two schools in the nation to be selected as a blue ribbon school. There are thirty-two thousand high schools nationwide.

Governor Jim Florio, in presenting this award, stated, "This flag is a badge of honor. It is a sign that East Brunswick students know education is hard work. It's also a sign of a job well done by everybody here today."

East Brunswick students seemed very proud of the award. As junior Erica Sherman stated, "It is a big honor for our school to be chosen as one of the best in the nation." Senior Danny Litt added, "It is an honor that our school definitely deserves."

Prom stirs controversy

by Que-Chi Tran

The Board of Education decided on October 10 to uphold the administration's original plans to keep the prom on a Friday night. On September 12, 1991, a group of students from the high school attended a Board of Education meeting to voice their opinions about the date of the prom. In past years, the prom has been traditionally held on a Friday night. However, this would mean annually excluding individuals who can not attend because of their religious duties. Because of this religious conflict, students and their parents requested the prom be changed to a Thursday night.

The first person to speak on behalf of the community was Dr. Milton Heumann, father of senior Danny Heumann. He proposed moving a teacher's workshop from the end of the year to the Friday after the prom so that there would not be a problem with poor attendance. He also mentioned that East Brunswick is one of the few high schools in the area who have not changed the prom date to Thursday. The students mentioned several times that it is "one thing for a person to not want to go and another thing to not be able to go."

Senior Kim Seelinger, who is not Jewish, said, "It is very important to respect their rights. It's so little of a sacrifice compared to their religion. They would never put [the prom] on a Sunday morning and violate our Sabbath day. We're forcing them to make a choice no one should have to make."

cont. on page 7

Homecoming halls show class spirit

by Kim Lanfranca

Homecoming on October 11 brought many smiles and much laughter to the halls of EBHS through the Homecoming Hall Decorating Contest.

This year, the homecoming theme was "Decades." Seniors chose the theme of the 60's, juniors did the 50's, and the sophomores chose to do the 20's. Though the judging was close, the seniors were judged to have the best display.

Advisors for the winning senior class were Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Mendelsohn. Displays included Julia Child's Kitchen, the Vietnam War, and the first man on the moon.

Senior Nicole Like was one of the members of a live Beatles band. She stated, "I'm glad we won because our group worked hard and I'm sure everyone else did.

Senior Mike Chodroff commented, "The Homecoming Hall Decoration Competition promotes class unity and gives everybody a chance to work together and share great ideas."

Mrs. Lentz and Mrs. Vimislik supervised the junior class decorations. The creations included a 50's diner setting and a sock hop.

Junior Rachel Korn, who was in one of the live displays of a 50's girl, said, "I think we did a great job, everyone worked hard and had a great time."

Junior Laura Lebovich added, "I think it's a great experience that brings high school students together."

"It's a lot of fun and it brings out the spirit of East Brunswick High School," further commented junior Beth Cackowski.

The sophomore class, advised by Mrs. Bauer and Mrs. Rosenberg, decorated their hall with a 20's theme. Their hall had a display in honor of Charles Lindberg's flight and a "Sophomore Speakeasy," an illegal bar of the 1920's. Sophomore Andrea Olan was among six girls who danced to the music of a live jazz band. "We had a good experience for our sophomore year, and since we learn from experience, now we're aware of what is expected of us as juniors and seniors," Andrea said.

Sophomore Teresa Ducsak added, "Decorating the halls is a fun new activity for the incoming sophomores."

The Student Council was in charge of picking the judges for the contest. Each judge rated the displays from 1-10 in eight different categories.

photo by Irene Small

Seniors Ilene Marcus and Tara Sinclair show winning '60's spirit at the Homecoming Hall Decoration Contest.

Editorial

What night's the prom?

The results of the controversy over the prom cannot be considered a victory for anyone involved. As the prom will apparently be held on a Friday, as originally scheduled, those with a religious conflict will still be unable to attend. And questions were still left unanswered on the subject of scheduling important school events on Friday nights.

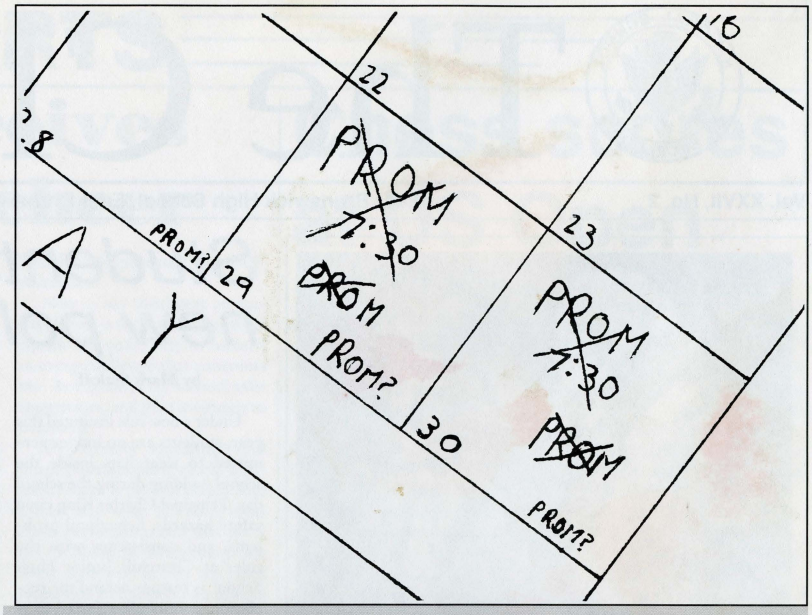
Yet, rather than dwell on the failure of changing the prom to a Thursday or Saturday night, conclusions should be drawn so that this problem will not occur in the future. If the prom had been scheduled on a Thursday, as advocated by Dr. Milton Heumann and others who wanted the date changed, a day off would have had to be scheduled the day after to ensure that there would be no attendance problems. Further, students from other schools might not be able to attend, as they would not have the next day off. This in itself could actually affect more students than would be affected if the prom were held on a Friday.

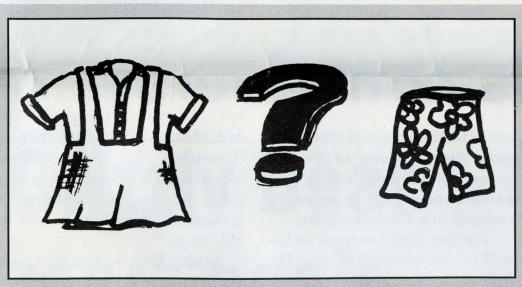
The prom could also be held on a Saturday; however, the prom would cost much more if it were, causing financial hardship for many students heading off to college.

The question remains, what should be done? The prom has been held on a Friday for a number of years, and has thus far been all but accepted. The location and date of this year's senior prom were established by the class council in conjunction with the administration. However, while the student body is allowed to vote on less important issues like prom colors and prom song, the date and location of this big event are chosen by a select few.

Thus, this question must be raised: Why isn't each class allowed to vote on a date and location for its prom? The class council could assemble a list of several possible sites and dates, with a projected cost for each one. The class could then vote on the issue.

The senior prom is a very special event, one of the highlights of high school. Everyone should be able to go to the senior prom, regardless of religion. However, while the rights of the minority must be protected, this must not be done at the expense of the majority. Thus, we feel that a vote should be taken as to the date and location of the student prom. Only through a vote of the entire class will the rights of everyone be protected and the true voice of those who are directly affected by heard.





A view from the left and right: School uniforms

School uniforms instill spirit

by Jennifer Ty

School uniforms should be required. Students in today's underprivileged society and economically bereft world should not be socially penalized by the economic standing and capability of their parents and/or guardians. Adolescents growing up in the pressure-filled world of today should not have to be concerned with their appearance, but rather their education.

School uniforms instill school spirit and a sense of belonging, rather than hatred and anxiety over the fashion statements of the day. When everyone is dressed similarly, racial and ethnic differences begin to fade.

Also, with the use of school uniforms, there is no chance for students to cause confrontation with others by wearing gang-related clothing or symbols when they should be learning. School uniforms would thus contribute to a safer and more stable environment in which youths can mature.

Expensive fad clothing may lead a young impressionable student to steal or commit crimes in order to wear what is "in" at the moment. Peer pressure is a force which can cause great anxiety to teens, and the need to conform can be great enough to cause a student to break the law. With school uniforms, much of that pressure is eliminated. If everyone is wearing the same clothing, no one feels "left out" and competition is decreased.

In the economically deprived world of today, most people spend too much of their income on unnecessary expenses such as clothing. Mandated school uniforms would put a cap on these costs. This would teach our youths to spend their money wisely and budget their incomes, as well as realize that which is truly important and necessary. Wasteful spending has damaged our national economy and our future citizens must learn management skills as well as reorganize their financial priorities.

If instituting a system of school uniforms is not economically or sociologically feasible, a dress code policy should definitely be implemented in its place. This provides the school with needed structure and discipline. School uniforms are a conspicuous example of the control that is necessary for a successful institution of learning.

School uniforms are oppressive

by Jocelyn So

School uniforms should not be required. Clothing is a form of artistic expression and a vehicle for the development of originality. We want to promote these feelings of creativity, and clothing is crucially entwined with the freedom of expression and speech.

Individuality has always been a trademark of American civilization and we should try to instill this belief in our children. They are the leaders of tomorrow.

This country was founded upon the idea of nonconformity. How can we justify forcing today's youth to submit themselves to the domineering standards established by a chosen few? All too soon, the students of today will have to succumb to the rigid ideals of the adult world, where dressing for success means adopting the facade of civilization. For now, pride in themselves and their own beliefs and ideals should be fostered. It is at this delicate juncture of their lives that the individual should be allowed to create.

Although some would suggested that school dress codes are a lesser, but necessary, evil, they are actually more destructive. A dress code gives only the illusion of choice. It restricts a student's individuality just as surely as forcing a school uniform upon a reluctant teen would.

We must teach our young people how to make their own decisions, for all too frequently they never master this skill. These decisions are then made for them by drugs, peers, and television. Today's youths must be encouraged to think for themselves and, in order for them to do this, they must be trusted to make their own decisions.

Choices concerning clothing, albeit a minor responsibility in the life of a teenager, are the first step to a mature adult. After all, this is just another way of learning to live together, of learning to adjust to one another's sensibilities, a process begun in the early elementary years of their education.

Guidelines, used to suggest and not restrict a student's choice of attire, could be instituted to appease society's notions of propriety. However, any policies concerning the student's dress must ultimately be left up to the student.

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my column

The second saga

by Ilana Goldman

If i wasn't in the midst of having a nervous breakdown right now, i'd welcome you all back to "My Column." But i am, so go to hell. Actually we are, going to hell that is. that is, me and my best friend. In order to preserve the integrity of this column, i will not mention her name. Except that she runs cross country, drives a white Audi (license plate number GPO-77T), is taking Beginners' Dance for the third consecutive year, and her name rhymes with Lara. i feel so much better now that i've concealed her identity. Would you like to know how two such upstanding youths of America wound up trying to end their lives in a bakery? Would you? Do i care? You care, my captive audience, and you're getting very sleepy....

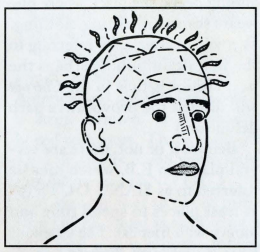
It all started like this....It was a deceptively calm Sunday afternoon. We had just returned home from the hospital on the day of our birth—no, no, that's going to far back (but that's when it really did start!)—anyway, we had just returned home from an ever-so-stimulating trip to the mall with another anonymous friend of ours. That's about when the stress really started to pour on, now to get to the meat of the story, (my friend would like you to know that we don't eat meat, so we could give it to you—HA!). We had organized our entire lives around a Homecoming meeting at 5:00 p.m.—mind you, homecoming had to be done this Thursday. So as we prepared to have people invade my home—the phone rang. And to make a long story short (and a list, we love lists, everyone should make lists):

1. One out of seven people had a family celebration.
2. Two out of now six people had car trouble at Menlo Park Mall.
3. One out of now four people mysteriously disappeared (and hasn't been heard from since).
4. One out of now three people decided they have too much homework.

This left me and my best friend, and the pizza delivery man from Grande. Let the good times roll. So, as if i wasn't already stressed out about:

1. My weight.
2. My friend's weight.
3. What my friend thinks of my weight.
4. My college applications.
5. My friend's **14** college applications.
6. The ACT, SAT, Ach, PLO, FBI, FDA, EPA, ASPCA, MSG, APs, REM, ARF, and our P&Qs.
7. That the Redskins are now 7-0, and there is a basketball player named Minute Bowl.
8. Our third anonymous friend read our lists about #1-8.
9. Our homework.
10. My friend's lost Trig sheet.
11. My Spanish vocab that i have to translate into Swahili.
12. The MTV dancers.
13. The fact that Frosted Flakes use the theme to Rocky in their commercials.
14. The fact that my boyfriend is 366 miles away.
15. The fact that my friend doesn't have a boyfriend.
16. Every activity we've been or will be involved with.
17. Stupid *Clarion* articles that no one will ever read—like this one.
18. Male pattern baldness.

Lets just say that my editors and the powers that be cut out items #19 - #1,089, but you get the point. It was approximately this time when we lost it:



We didn't freak out because of homecoming, but it set off our demise. We couldn't take it anymore—we started to run around my room screaming, "i won't go to Delaware, and i hate fresh asparagus in May!!!"; from there we ran screaming into her car (which for some reason is continually defrosting her back window) and fled to the baker i can't exactly remember everything that happened then, but i distinctly recall picking a number at the counter, it being 666, and screaming "i'm going to end it all if don't get some service fast!!!" The woman behind the counter seemed slightly intimidated by the fact that i was trying to slit my wrists with a cinnamon nut roll, but she still came over. We learned that she attended Cittone, and her expert knowledge basically told us that:

1. We could go to Harvard with a 660 SAT score. (NOT)
2. Our stress is nothing compared to the life of a bakery salesgirl. (NOT)
3. The chocolate chip cookies aren't two weeks old. (TRUE-they are 4 weeks old!)
4. Ten dozen cookies cost $13.95 after tax.

From this oh-so-enlightening experience we ran into Krauzer's. i won't elaborate, but let's just say that they won't forget us so easily. Basically, since then we've laughed, we've cried, we've felt a range of emotions. It's about time for mi amiga solamente to go home, and since she's been incapable of saying anything other than "There's always room for Jello" and "My name is Michael Jackson—ever heard of me?" for the last 3 hours, i'm going to take her home.

So, that's the end of this episode of *My Column.* Until next time, let me leave you with this thought:

If you were Hair Club for Men's president, would you also want to be a member?

I thought not.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 18	**FBLA Food Drive**
	EBHS PTSA, 8:00 p.m.
Nov. 19	**NHS Blood Drive**
Nov. 22	**Report cards**
Nov. 28-29	**Thanksgiving–Schools Closed**
Dec. 3-5	**Parent Conferences-Half Days**
Dec. 6-7	**Drama Production, 7:30 p.m.**
Dec. 7	**SAT/ACH Tests, 8:00 a.m.**
Dec. 9	**Fall Recognition Assembly, Period 2**
Dec. 12	**Chorus & Orchestra Winter Concert, 7:30 p.m.**
Dec. 13	**Fall Recognition Assembly, Period 3**
Dec. 17	**Progress Reports Mailed**
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	**Winter Vacation—FINALLY!**

Beyond the Yellow Gate

by Lynda Tsai

Well, everyone, welcome back to school. Hopefully, most of you have gotten back into the swing of things. Etc., etc.

For those who don't have a clue as to what the heck I'm supposed to be writing about, *Beyond the Yellow Gate* is the exchange column (my column) for *The Clarion.* Yes. "My column." (So there, Ilana!) During the course of the year, I'll be telling you about highlights from schools around the country. Some things may be stupid, some may be bizarre. Some topics may even be interesting.

* * * * *

Did you know that some schools don't allow students to wear shorts during warm weather? (What?!? They go in their underwear?!? Well...not quite.) Manasquan High School is one of them. According to *Blue & Gray,* their school administration believes that shorts are "sex provoking." Sex provoking, huh? Tell that to The Gap.

Meanwhile, MHS students have to sweat it out in jeans and pants until June 1st, when shorts become (snort, snort) unprovoking.

Skirts are allowed at Manasquan High School, which gives the girls an upper hand. An upper leg, rather. However, that didn't stop three guys from wearing skirts to school. Power to them—hope they had nice legs. By the way, they were told to go home and change their clothes. Oh well. Let's hope the EBHS administration doesn't get any wrong ideas from this.

* * * * *

Switching the topic (this will often happen in this column), Monica Seles, Michael Chang, and Jennifer Capriati (for you tennis fans) are not the only talented teenagers in America today. Nineteen-year-old Matty Rich is just as precocious (gasp—SAT word alert).

And just WHO is Matty Rich? Well, he's an up-and-coming movie director. At 17, he directed a movie about life in the New York City housing projects where he grew up. "Straight Out of Brooklyn" was released during the past summer by the Samuel Goldwyn Company.

But, to all you aspiring directors: Matty didn't direct anything until he had read 250 books on filmmaking. 250 books?!? No kidding. And he still had time to direct a movie?!? This writer is thoroughly impressed.

* * * * *

Moving on again, we find ourselves in Allentown, PA, where school board officials are bribing students at William Allen High School. Wait a minute...*Bribery?!?* Actually, this is a lot more innocent than it sounds. Really.

According to *The Canary,* elected student officials who served on a mock edition of the local school board had the opportunity to reject a six-day school cycle. However, in a desperate attempt, their "real" counterparts tried to push the resolution through by offering them "Bounty" bars. (What?!? No peanut M&M's? What is American government being reduced to?)

Anyway, the bribe failed when a super-slick senior ate the evidence. Like I said before, this stuff is non-fiction.

* * * * *

Well folks, guess that's about it for now. Stay tuned for the next exciting episode of *Beyond the Yellow Gate—The Quest for Normalcy.*

Tips on Saving the Earth

by Lori Kahn and Nicole Like

Since we know that all of you loved and abided by our tips last issue, lo and behold, we have more!

Stop junk mail.

Did you know that the average Joe/Josephine spends eight full months of his/her life opening junk mail? We know you love the mail for the groovy things the high school sends you, for your boyfriend/girlfriend's love letters from 3.62 billion miles away, and for all the college mail from the University of Guam. So, we're not asking you to stop this mail, but rather the type of mail that says "You, too, can raise your own skunk farm." If a million people stopped this junk mail, 1.5 million trees could be saved a year. Help by reducing your junk mail up to 75% by writing to: Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Assn., 11 West 42nd St., PO Box 3861, New York, N.Y. 10163-3861. Tell them that you don't want your name added to any more mailing lists.

Stay tuned for more tips in upcoming issues. Later!

Julius Scissor

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CONSUMERISM IN E.B.: MONEY

Where do student spend their money?

by Rachna Shah

East Brunswick High School students have typical spending habits, but some exceptions do exist. According to the *Clarion* Consumer Survey, 35% of the students surveyed spend their money on clothes, 18% spend it on food, and 17% spend it on music.

Teens exhaust most of their funds buying clothes. Junior Leigh Flusser remarked, "I buy the things that my Mom won't buy for me."

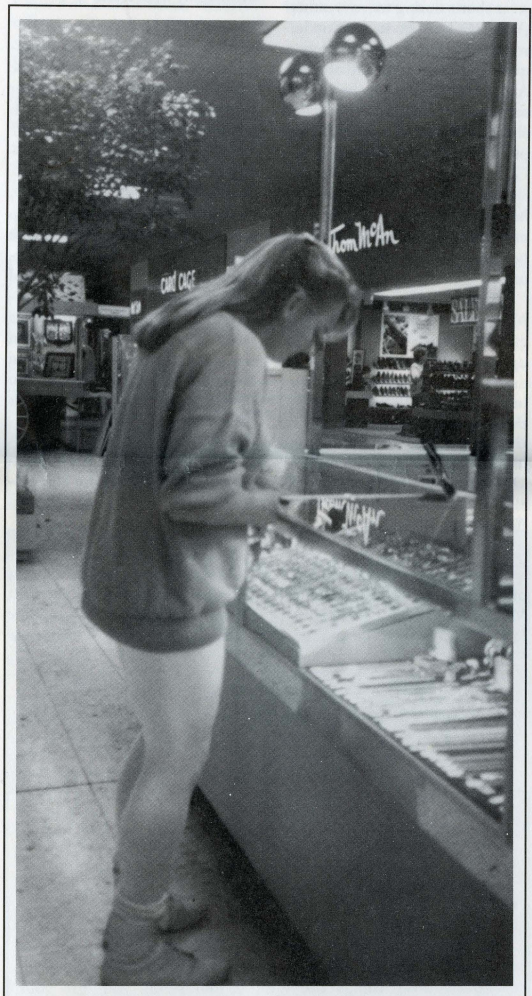


photo by Yungdor Fu

Senior Karen Jones admires jewelry in the mall.

Junior Cindy Mustillo said, "I buy clothes because I like to shop. It's fun." Students purchase most of their clothes from specialty stores such as the Gap and department stores such as Macy's.

Teens these days find themselves having to pay for food. According to Junior Yoon Hee Kang, "When I was younger, I only ate at home, but, with my busier schedule, I find myself paying for my own meals." This is especially true for seniors who go out to lunch. 54% of the surveyed teens eat out at least one to two times a week and spend approximately six to ten dollars per meal. Of the seniors surveyed, 24% go out to lunch five days a week and expend two to five dollars per lunch. Favorite lunch spots for seniors include Bella La Pizza and Taverna Della Pizzeria, as well as McDonald's.

Another expenditure for teens is music. Record World/Sam Goody is frequented by 42% of the students surveyed. Senior Tracey Shull remarked, "Sam Goody usually gets the newest music." The Wiz is also popular, as 23% of those surveyed shop there because, according to Tracey, "The Wiz has the lowest prices."

Some students make more exotic purchases. For instance, Senior Kevin Dittman said, "I buy wires and switches, mainly, for stereo and car repairs." Sophomore Craig Goldstein said, "I spend most of my money on my friends or on girls."

Craig also stated, "I am a very wise spender." The majority of the students, 62%, however, consider themselves moderate spenders. 62% of the students also budget their money carefully.

Out of the surveyed students, 73% of them felt that, in general, teens in America are too materialistic. Junior Yoon Hee Kang remarked, "Teens in this country spend too much money on things that they do not need."

by Lisa Fogel

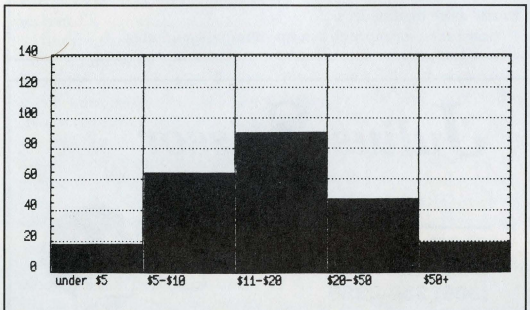
All right, kids, it's finally Friday night. You've survived a grueling thirty-hour school week, cried over your first [insert your most impossible subject] test, and started wearing your books as protective gear—it's time for some fun. Mom and Dad may be satisfied with watching late night TV, but you want to HANG OUT. That's right. We haven't heard that phrase in quite a while, so I'll define it for you: HANG OUT–v. to entertain oneself among peers; the act which occurs when one wears scanty, ill-fitting clothing n. the place where one entertains oneself among peers; the place where one wears scanty, ill-fitting clothing. We will, of course, be referring to the first definition. (Perhaps the next fashion article in the *Clarion* will discuss the provocative garb definition.)

Believe it or not, there are several places in E.B. which may be referred to as HANG OUTS (or at least places to spend time and money with friends). The infamous Elite Billiards on Ryder's Lane is the domain of pool/air hockey lovers who don't mind first- or second-hand smoke. It is a relatively small pool hall, and the place can get quite crowded. But, if you really want to get your hustling elbow in, it's worth a couple of bucks and the highly-flammable environment.

And there's always the cinema —excuse me, I mean Movie City Five (if you are really daring, then Loew's). The flicks are getting pretty expensive these days; it is often necessary to find a rich and reliable critic to preview for you. However, in the movies, it's dark and temperature-controlled, and you can rely on the screen to amuse you. This is a common choice—we have nothing else to do, so let's just subject ourselves to a multi-million dollar project that hopefully relates to our lives—the big screen. Unfortunately, some of our younger siblings and their comrades have picked up on this. Yes, you are normal if the giggling eighth graders get to you. Just realize how cool you are because you're in high school, and they will miraculously disintegrate.

Malls, malls everywhere, but

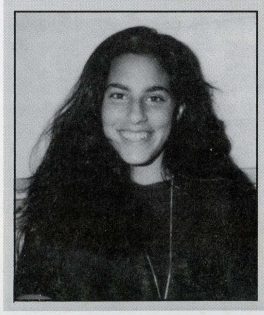
How much money do you spend per week?



Inquiring Photographer:

by Soundhari Balaguru

"A humidifier." —Senior Lisa Fogel



"The A on my English Final!" —Sophomore Matt Sternthal

"A bracelet." —Junior Kelly Pechar

MONEY AND HOW WE USE IT

not a drop to drink, you may say, but some of us still go to shopping centers to chill. You can eat, drink, be merry, get stampeded by bargain hunters, and drool over things that you cannot afford at these establishments (unless you came to shop, which rarely happens). The Brunswick Square Mall is rumored to be rodent-infested and bankrupt, so most of us opt for Woodbridge, Princeton Marketfair, Bridgewater or the amazing/new/wonderful/overcrowded MENLO PARK MALL, which is actually quite a lovely place if you avoid the violinists in Nordstroms. Visiting distant malls also gives us a chance to inspect other people's varsity jackets and decide whether eye contact is worthwhile.

Some of us opt to be poser-college students for fun. Rutgers is just around the corner, and New Brunswick is a change of pace for us E.B.-ites. We can even visit the high school graduates in their dorms and HANG OUT with them. If we're lucky, we'll get into a party or fall in love on line at Thomas Sweet.

And then there's the Library. Some of us enjoy pretending to tend to our studies while we secretly socialize with our fellow overworked pals. We may even persuade him/her to help us with our homework. (Ah, what fervor in the reference section!)

But, no, you're not the only one who resigns yourself to movie rental and HANGING OUT at home. It's okay, we all do it sometimes, really. (Fine. My house at seven.) It's cheaper than the "real" movies, and your very own couch comes free. Not to mention the selection I believe that E.B. has the most movie stores per capita in the world. If Video Vault doesn't have "Ninja Gandhi," you can bet Easy Video will.

We in East Brunswick have the same problem as the rest of America, and possibly the world—a large number of incessantly bored teenagers. That's right, no form of activity is enough to fulfill our desire to HANG OUT. I'm sure, though, that all of our problems will be solved as soon as some kind soul builds a home for the rollerblade-derby.

Students find time to work for their money!

by Kim Seelinger

There are some talented students at EBHS who perform an amazing balancing act every week. No, they are not into flaming hoops and sharp, glinting objects. (That's a story for another day and another paper....) I refer to the people who have jobs during the school year, and I speak on the part of the rest of us paupers when I say, "How do they do it?"

I suppose the more obvious question would be, "Why?" As we all know, being a teenager in Suburbia has become quite a costly pastime. One has to worry about clothes, music, gas money, and other be-a-cool-guy things that take entirely too much green stuff. So, short of robbing the neighborhood bank, we all find our own little ways to stay alive. Which is very hard to do, as every minute not spent gallivanting about being a Teenager in Suburbia (now shortened to T.i.S) is used to tackle the gargantuan pile of "things to do for school." And so, some babysit. Some mow lawns. Some sit on lawns for very eccentric people. Yet, a fraction of EBHS students have the coordination to hold a steady job after 2:10.

Intrigued by this phenomenon, I sought out a few of the wonder-folk.

Seniors Agnes Tang and Stacey Rosenbaum both work in the office of a prominent toy company. They earn their pay five days a week taking company orders and filing invoices. "Actually," Agnes says, "we spend most of our time drinking hot chocolate." Is that the best part of the job? "No, the pay is the best —six dollars an hour. Wait, that's not it. The best part is listening to all the old people there yell dirty Pee-Wee Herman jokes to each other." Definite fringe benefits.

While not privy to the delights of Pee-Wee Herman tales, junior Norman Vino receives a bonus from his job. When he's not taking care of the tennis courts at the East Brunswick Racquet Club, Norman can be found playing in games with customers. He works only twice a week, which does not pose a dire threat to his school work. "It's not really an 'interesting' job," Norman says, "but I do get free court time. That's the best thing about working there, because it's definitely not the money."

And what about the other wonder-folk? I have witnessed a good number of them here and there. Junior Maureen Regan does an especially breath-taking balancing act. Whether she is into flaming hoops and sharp, glinting objects, I cannot tell, but I do know that she juggles school, field hockey, and a job at Thin's Inn. Remarkable. How does she get good grades AND play good defense AND make a mean soft chocolate cone? Or should we stop wondering and attribute it to the luck of the Irish?

As for the rest of the wonder-folk, you will spot them working at the supermarket, taking inventory in the shoe store, standing behind the counter at Dairy Queen, or lounging on the life-guard deck at the Ramada Renaissance. And then you will chance upon them again, only this time they will be spending their paycheck on clothes, music, gas, or other be-a-cool-guy things.

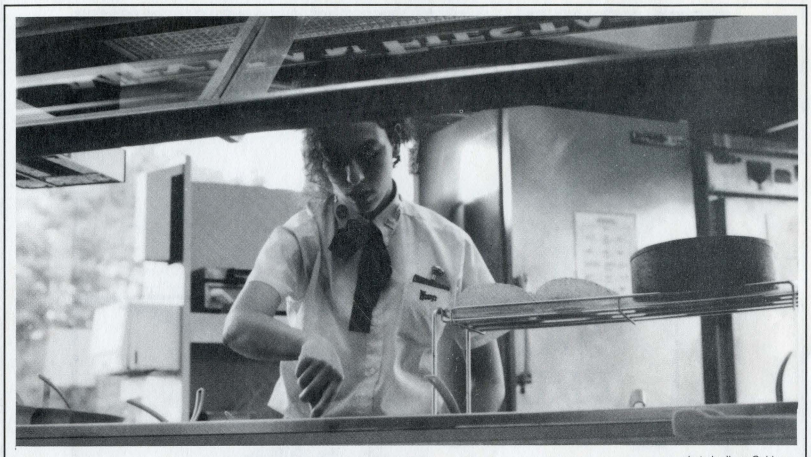
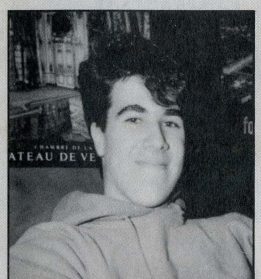


photo by Ilana Goldman

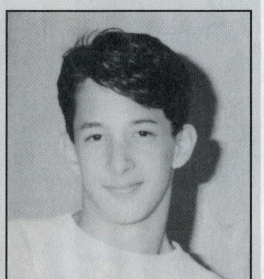
Sophomore Dina Christopher refills the salad bar at Wendy's.

What is the biggest purchase you ever made?



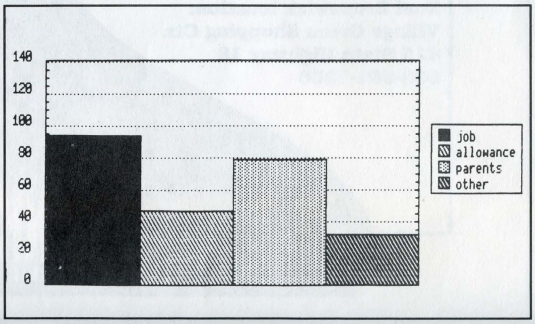
"A $1000 one way ticket to Chicago."
—Junior Jason Berkowitz

""My car." —Senior Jennifer Sabino



"A CD player."
—Sophomore Brian Chiongbian

Where do you get your spending money?



BEATS

photo by Wendy Bessenoff

Juniors (L to R) Suzanne Peltzman, Christi Calvano, Grace Cham, Celia Cackowski, Beth Cackowski, Portia Pollarca and Ayada Azeez.

SENIORS

by Agnes Tang

Over the past few months, the SENIORS have once again adjusted to the mad routines of this honorable institution. Although prying open your eyes at 7:00 in the morning and arriving to class on time within the four minutes passing time is not exactly a thrill, knowing that there are only seven more months left is a helpful reassurance.

For some of us, well...at least one of us, the nightmare of college acceptances is over. Senior Keith Stoler was the first in the entire class to receive a long-waited decision from a college. He was accepted to the University of Michigan on a rolling admissions plan. Other candidates who are under the early decision plans will receive their responses by December 15. (Keep your fingers crossed and pray that your admissions officer is in a good mood while reviewing your application.)

By now, you are probably wondering exactly when you will be able to live the ultimate SENIOR life (...just think...going out on weeknights, lounging at home when you are just not in the mood to go to school, waking up at 8:15 and deciding to just drop by the school just to hang out...lovely thoughts, aren't they?). Unfortunately, the time hasn't come yet for us to do all these things, so in the meantime it is best to keep up the good work—midterms are only a few months away!

JUNIORS

by Stephanie Knox

As I walked through the auditorium doors on October 10th, I was stunned by the bustling activity surrounding me. Many of my peers were rushing around the hall by the auditorium drawing, coloring, and hanging in a rush. With the Black Crowes, Van Morrison, and Don Henley blaring in the background, I got out my notepad and began to contemplate my approach to accurately covering the Junior Homecoming set-up.

The preparation involved in the previous three weeks was extensive and toiling. After three "decisive" general meetings, the preliminary duties were assigned and eventually completed. The goal was to make everything look "busy" with posters and models. Displays were strewn across the floor, stars dangled from the ceiling, and a large street sign entitled "Memory Lane" invited people in.

One corner bragged a drive-in scene, while another had an example of a real fifties diner. One could sit at an actual countertop, look at food posters, and read a large menu with bordering lights. A large car represented the "Grease fad." To top it all, a real jukebox stood in front of the display, surrounded by silhouettes of dancers.

At 8:00, cartoon characters, such as Heckyl and Jeckyl were hung; next door, the "celebrities" display was being put together. By 8:30 the floor was almost clear of clutter and the smell of spray paint pervaded the air as the final touches went up. Junior class advisor Ms. Joyce Lentz expressed, "It's been an exciting time. It's neat watching all the ideas come together."

Heidi Tanania, committee chairperson in charge of the decorating plans, also conveyed her pride in the set-up. She said it was "more organized than last year. Everyone's working together well." But even though we worked very hard, the juniors still lost to the two-time winners, the class of '92. There's always next year!

CLUBS

by Andy Mendlowitz

Christie Brinkley in a skimpy, dripping wet bathing suit is coming closer to you. Closer, closer... well, now that I have your attention, welcome to my column about clubs...(Sorry about the cheap trick, but I did get your attention.)

Basically, in this column I'm going to cover a variety of clubs and tell you what's happening within them.

The **Italian Club,** advised by Mrs. Takacs, is aimed at familiarizing students with Italian culture. To do so, the club meets every other week and provides activities for students. New members can still join and should look in the daily bulletin for the day and room number. Future activities include an Italian night when students and friends are invited to experience Italian food and music. In addition, a trip to the opera is being planned. Executive board members are Christine Donzella, President; Stacey Quaranta, Vice President; Robert Donatiello, Secretary, and Jackie DeAngelis, Treasurer. According to Robert, "The Italian Club provides a very essential service to the community which should be admired and respected."

Future Homemakers of America (FHA) can boast of having two members on the New Jersey State Executive Board, representing the Central Region. Angela Liao and Jocelyn So were elected at the Fall Leadership Meeting at Trenton State College. The club participates in state competitions in April in areas such as job interviews, business, and other professional fields. The club also sponsors community service projects and a "flowergram" sale in December. Interested students should check the daily bulletin for meetings. Surprisingly, there's no cooking at all. President Lori Glaeberman said, "The name is outdated, but the club is fresh and new."

The Musicians' Club is a newly-formed club which is open to anyone, student or teacher. This club was designed so that students who do not get many chances to perform or to hear others perform, can do so. Twice a month, the Musicians' Club meets to have these recitals from students and even teachers. This club is a learning experience for everyone. All are invited to the recitals. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact Dr. Paul Kimmel, advisor, or Dina Christopher, president.

The Latin Club is not only focused on the Latin language. It is about history, culture, mythology, and romance. Students who are interested in life, where it came from and where it is going, are invited to join the Latin Club. Taking Latin is not a requirement to be in the Latin Club.

The French Club offers all students taking French a chance to learn more about the culture and lifestyle of the French people. Typical activities include a French Immersion Day at Middlesex County College, trips to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and a French restaurant in New York, and participating in a Mardi Gras.

I will look at more clubs and their activities in the next issue; but sorry, no more Christie Brinkley!

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NEWS

photo by Neil Olufsen

Governor Jim Florio listens to questions asked by Junior Jocelyn So.

Cadet squadders learn to serve

by Lee Selznick

In 1795, Baron Larrey developed the concept of pre-hospital emergency care for his emperor, Napoleon, during a campaign in Prussia. Yet another historical feat, in 1952, Joe Ostroski, Jim Kirkman and other residents of East Brunswick developed a volunteer rescue squad organization to provide such care to their community. Finally, in 1988, the young adults of East Brunswick were permitted to take part in this tradition through the founding of the cadet program within the squad.

The young cadet program is showing a promising future. "It's a very good idea if [the cadets] are serious about it," said Gabriella Pall, the Captain of the East Brunswick Rescue Squad. The cadets are sixteen- and seventeen-year-old residents who have had training in at least basic first aid and life support.

Ms. Pall expressed her wish that the cadets would become Emergency Medical Technicians as well. E.M.T.'s, as they are called, can give a higher level of pre-hospital care since they have been taught how to use all of the equipment and how to evaluate an injury in the field. "They will provide for the future health of the squad," she said.

The benefits are plentiful for any prospective cadets, especially those interested in entering a health or medical profession. "The Rescue Squad provides me the opportunity to work with real patients, which is important for me because I am interested in pursuing a medical career," explained Senior Jason Zicherman.

If taken seriously, as Ms. Pall hopes, then the experience also turns out to be a worthwhile one. Junior Steve Leitman, the captain of the cadet program, has learned more than how to help people in emergency situations. "I learned all the politics," said Steve, "such as how to go about doing things in an organization. It taught me how to plan programs, raise funds and get members. It helps in a business aspect." As a matter of fact, Steve summed up the entire cadet program when he simply said, "it helps."

In an effort to recruit more cadets and boost community awareness, members of the Rescue Squad will be holding a demonstration early in November on basic first aid and C.P.R. at the high school. During school that day a table will be set up in the cafeteria with information on the Cadet program. At least two members of the squad will be present for questions and cadet applications will be available. For more information on the Cadet program call 238-8739.

Florio talks education: a *Clarion* exclusive

by Jocelyn So and Cheryl Weiss

Governor Florio was on hand to congratulate the East Brunswick High School on its selection as a Blue Ribbon School at the presentation of the National Flag of Excellence on October 9, 1991. Directly following the awards ceremony, Florio took the time to answer a few questions from two *Clarion* reporters.

Clarion reporter: Seeing as you are the education governor, what special significance does this [the Blue Ribbon Award] have for you?

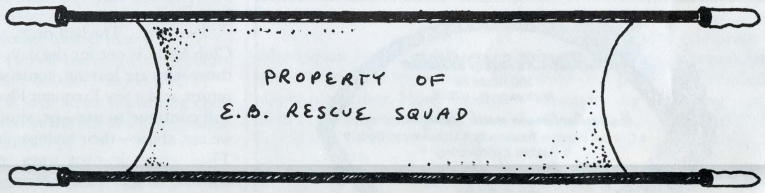
Governor Florio: This is very important because we already have the model; we've got the blueprint. And now all we have to do is get all of our other schools to start doing the same things that are being done here in East Brunswick. And we'll be able to look forward to the day when all our schools are schools of excellence. That's the goal.

Clarion reporter: How will the new policy dictating equal funding for all municipalities affect districts such as East Brunswick?

Governor Florio: Well, what it is we're trying to do is to provide funding for all of our school systems to be right up there with the best. In East Brunswick last year there was a 28% increase in funding [of] almost 4 million dollars. For what we want to do is to provide opportunities for the students. And that's where we're going to get [the funding].

Clarion reporter: Will the new high school proficiency test for the eleventh grade allow sufficient time to identify students who are in need of special education?

Governor Florio: I think so. We've given it some thought and we think that's an important way to be able to test students in relevant skills.



Prom cont. from page 1

After listening to the speakers, the Board of Education chose to discuss the issue on September 26. At this meeting Board of Education member Norma Teicher motioned to change the date of the prom. However, no one seconded the motion. Eventually another motion was made and seconded so that the issue could be brought out for deliberation. The Board finally decided to transfer the issue over to the Policy Committee. This committee was directed to consider the issue whether all school activities should be changed to fit the religious needs of everyone in our community by October 31 .

Junior Debra Schaffer, one of the students who wanted the prom date changed, did not agree with their motion. "We're not asking to have all the school activities changed, just the prom. It's only one day," she said.

Due to the controversy surrounding the prom issue, the Board decided to have another vote on the prom date before the Policy Committee's decision. This motion was defeated.

Information Officer Amy Fisher emphasized that the decision was made to support the administration, saying "the Board of Education has never voted on the date of the prom before, it is not their job."

The administration decided to keep the prom on Friday after considering the problems of low attendance on Friday and Monday. They were also concerned about the dangers of a three-day weekend.

One junior girl pointed out, "If it were on a Thursday, people bringing a guest would have to force their guest to take a day off from school or else not be able to spend the weekend with them. Plus, having it on Friday is tradition!"

9 Qualify for Merit Scholarship

by Joseph Kim

This year, nine seniors have qualified as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition. This award is given out each year to seniors who have achieved superior scores on their PSATs.

To become a semifinalist, each student must score in the top one half percent of all PSAT test takers in New Jersey. Once qualified, an application must be submitted for consideration as a finalist. "There is no real formula to being selected. The organization considers aspects such as grades and activities to choose the finalists," said semifinalist Jennifer Ty.

Semifinalist Sinan Turnacioglu stated, "I thought that I might get it, but after finding out, I was actually happy."

"I guess I was surprised. I knew a lot of people did better than me, and I didn't think I had a good chance," added Steve Mar.

Ron Kim commented, "Honestly, most of the semifinalists have been doing well on tests of this sort all of our lives. Why shouldn't we expect to do just as well?"

Many of the individuals prepared for the test by taking practice PSATs and studying vocabulary.

Semifinalist Dave Sultan said, "It's a great way to recognize anyone who has a talent. It's a nice honor, and it differs from other scholarships because you first have to do well on the PSAT, which shows your intelligence."

The semifinalists are considering a vast variety of colleges including Yale, Princeton, Cornell, Northwestern, MIT, Harvard, and Stanford.

Brian Baum noted, "Receiving $2000 wouldn't make too big a deal compared to the high prices of colleges. But it is a nice honor to get."

"I was glad to be part of such a group because I heard about it in the past," added Albert Chang.

The seniors will find out if they have qualified as finalists sometime in February. As Carrie Roberts stated, "All we can do is to cross our fingers and wait to become a finalist."

"I am really hoping that I can be a finalist or winner because the money can come in handy. And it would be quite an accomplishment for me," added Saurabh Jha.

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Welcome to Club I.S.S.

by Emmanuel King and Sue Kim

"Tick...tick...tick..." Time drags on. Another day at "Club I.S.S." Over winter or spring break, we "Blue-Ribbon Bears" might often be spotted running off to St. Thomas or Club Med but, during the one-hundred and eighty days when leaving the country is virtually taboo, the easiest alternative is to "escape" to I.S.S., a.k.a. "In-School Suspension."

Although the administration offers no travel brochures, a quick peek at the Student Handbook will reveal the qualifications necessary to be admitted: cutting class, smoking, receiving too many detentions, or other various repeated offenses. Once a student is there, room 6E offers a wide variety of recreational activities...no, actually, you just have to sit there and do your work.

One student on the "I.S.S. Frequent Flyer Plan," Shontanu (Sean) Deshpande, remarked, "It's relaxing; it's a day off from school." Several others commented that it was "boring" and "horrible," but that it would not deter them from repeating their offenses.

A few students did have positive (well, kind of) comments and even some suggestions. Sophomore Dante Puleio stated, "It's probably better than O.S.S. [Out of School Suspension] because...O.S.S. is like giving them what they want." This opinion was in concert with our resident expert, Frequent Flyer Sean, who added of O.S.S., "That's just a dumb idea."

Junior Yoon Hee Kang offered, "I.S.S. should be on Saturday, because coming to school and missing classes is no punishment." This suggestion was also made by Principal Charles King. Math teacher Mrs. Sharon Merli added, "I like that. I like Saturday detentions." Of course, this would require teachers to come in on Saturdays, concerning which, she said, "I'm sure they'd be able to find people if they paid them, but I wouldn't go."

Of course, then we would have to change the name from "Club I.S.S." to "The Breakfast Club"—but that's beside the point.

Although Mr. King admitted, "I am not a great advocate of I.S.S.," he did recognize the need for disciplinary action in the times when I.S.S. is administered.

"I.S.S.," he said, "is to make the honest people honest." By this, he meant that a main goal of I.S.S. is not only to discipline. Rather, I.S.S. also serves as a deterrent to those who might be tempted to commit offenses were the consequences more mild.

Other schools in our area do offer alternatives. Bishop Ahr in Edison, for example, administers "Saturday suspensions," three of which buy their students a permanent O.S.S. At Bayonne High School, I.C.E. is used as the counterpart to our I.S.S. In I.C.E., Isolated Classroom Experience, students also spend a day in a room, but they are seated in such a way that they have to sit and stare at a wall all day.

Our own SAVE, Students Against Violating the Environment, offers us yet another alternative. All students who receive I.S.S. are given the option of joining in a SAVE clean-up for three precious Saturday morning (sleeping) hours. In the words of Mr. King, "This allows the students to do something productive with the time."

Two fifty...The bell rings, and Club I.S.S. is out for the day. Of those who are leaving, some will return, and a few Frequent Flyers will continue to use—or, should we say, abuse—their savings plan. They go their own ways, not knowing (and probably not caring) whether the next time they visit room 6E will be on a dismal Saturday morning.

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"90210" in 08816

by Stacey Quaranta

O.K. Admit it. It's Thursday night and it's 9:00 p.m. Where are you? Don't even try the old, "I'm sitting at my desk diligently studying biochemistry while listening to Mozart's *Symphony No. 40 in G Minor* and sipping my cappuccino," because it won't work. Not this time. No, we all know the real truth. Just let me guess—you're in front of the TV, glued to every precious moment of *Beverly Hills 90210,* enthusiastically soaking in the weekly moral issue and imagining what it would be like to run your fingers through Brandon's hair. (Even those of the male gender can't deny this one—not even you can break free from his vise-like trance.)

But, seriously, what **is** all the hype? What is it that makes you, all your friends, and half of teenage America watch this show week after week?

Is it the valuable lessons you learn about life, love, and happiness—the moral ethics dispersed throughout the episodes and the accurate portrayal of the life of the average teen in Beverly Hills?

Honestly, though, I don't think this is what the average teenager is really like. Let's take Dylan, for example. He's suave, sexy, rich, casual, and well-dressed. However, if you ask me, he looks like he's pushing 40, with the receding hairline and all. Although I find it hard to believe he's still in high school, he does drive a convertible (which is a plus in my book, despite the aforementioned hair condition). Now, Brandon's my style. He's hot, he's handsome, he's sexy, he's single. He's intelligent, mature, inquisitive, caring, and sensitive. He's hip, he's happening, he's politically correct. He's a lover, he's a dreamer. He has strong morals and sideburns. What more could you ask for in a man? How about —REALITY? Sorry, but this guy just doesn't exist. Not where I'm from.

But, then again, I'm not from Beverly Hills. And maybe that's the root of my problem. I like to think I don't live in a society that's totally immersed in clothes, cars, hair, and popularity. But, actually, what society isn't? This show just blatantly portrays it without pretending that it doesn't exist. You've got to give them credit for that.

There are as many strong supporters as adamant critics of the show. *90210* also means other things to other people. Senior Art Yang says he can identify with it because "the conservative adults of this country do not address the adolescent modern-day problems of the average teenager. This program gives the children of this country an opportunity to unite against the oppression of these fascists. Eventually, the children will unite and prevail!"

Well, an interesting view, yes, but others voiced their opinions about the show's faults. "I think it blatantly portrays the adolescent cross section of the population as materialistic dweebs," states senior Rich Levitt, "but I like the girls on it."

"That also," Art adds.

Well, so much for materialism and oppression. I had such high hopes....

Students play "Beat the Clock"

by Jennifer Tan

On your mark, get set...BUZZ! You make a mad dash through the hallways, shoving and trampling any obstacles blocking your path. Or, you casually stroll from class to class, making frequent pitstops to refuel on current gossip with friends.

Which scenario are you subjected to? With hallway passing time limited to four precious minutes (instead of five), some find themselves scrounging for those rare ticks of the clock.

"It's definitely not enough time. My locker isn't near any of my classes; I'm always late, but my teacher understands....I haven't gotten any detentions because I was late to class," commented junior Yoon Hee Kang. Corinne Ryan, a senior, is in a similar predicament. "I'm always late, but I have an understanding teacher."

But for those who don't have such compassionate teachers, what do you do? After all, you don't want to be marked late (twice or more) and atone for your tardiness in The Dreaded Dungeon of EBHS (a.k.a. detention). Instead, you metamorphosize into Clock-Watching Zombies (why aren't there any second hands on the clocks?) towards the end of the period, packing up minutes before the buzzer sounds so that you can leave at the soonest possible moment.

When asked if more students are arriving late to class this year, history teacher Mrs. Barbara Maier commented, "I haven't noticed a significant problem with students coming in late."

Honestly, does that one minute really matter? Well, it partially depends on the distance between your classes. After school, it took this physically fit(?) reporter 3:20 to travel from the end of Building 7 to the end of Building 3—forty seconds to spare, but hardly enough time. (Remember, this trek was completed sans the usual human traffic-crunches plaguing EBHS corridors.)

So, if the four minutes suits your schedule, Father Time probably owed you big time (either that, or you're just plain lucky), but, if you find yourself explaining to your teacher that it's NOT your fault that you're late (again!), some adjustments in managing your time might be the answer. (What was the question?) Find the shortest, most direct route and, if at all humanly possible, cut down on social time and get your butt to class. (Don't hold this advice responsible for ruining your social life, though.) Listen, times change, and people change. Like it or not, you're going to have to deal with it.

the gargantuan gourmet

The Olive Garden

by Michael Weisberg and Sinan Turnacioglu

Hey, hey, hey! What's happening'? Welcome to the Gargantuan Gourmet, East Brunswick High School's very own connoisseur column. To start things off with a bang, we decided to visit East Brunswick's newest dining experience—Route 18's very own Olive Garden.

Upon entering the fine establishment, we were taken aback by the great number of people present and the cloying odor of perfume. Gasping for breath, we provided the boyish host with a name and were told our wait would be about an hour. This seemed excessive, but it was a Saturday night, so we spent the better part of the hour strolling about the mall. Considering the time we had, the Garden's location right next to the mall is an excellent one.

After we returned to the restaurant, we were confronted by a merry fellow offering breadsticks (one of the Garden's trademarks) to the patrons. We greedily grabbed a handful and gobbled them down. While waiting (still?!), we glanced around the waiting room, remarking on the festive atmosphere.

Upon sitting down at our table, we were delighted to find that we had been provided with rolling chairs. Never before in our dining experiences had we been graced with the presence of such a feature. As we waited for our drinks, we were treated with more breadsticks, as well as a massive bowl of untossed salad.

Dishes ranging from lasagna to the special of the month, the Tour of Italy meal, could be found on the rest of the menu. Prices ranged from $6.25 to $13.75, with most of the dishes in the $9 range.

After munching down two baskets of breadsticks and two bowls of salad (Sinan made sure he got all the tomatoes, because, as he put it, "The tomatoes are best!"), and draining our glasses (the breadsticks and salad were on the house, and free refills were provided for our drinks), we were served our food. Michael ordered the lasagna, and Sinan ordered the ziti. The portions were a good size, considering the prices, and they were delicious. However, since we had gorged ourselves on breadsticks and salad, neither of us was able to finish our meal.

The Olive Garden is the place to go when you want more than just a meal—and you're really, really, really hungry. The setting is excellent (especially the chairs), the food is satisfying, and the service is great. Go—NOW!!

The Olive Garden gets:

★★★1/2

(out of 4)

Editorial

What night's the prom?

The results of the controversy over the prom cannot be considered a victory for anyone involved. As the prom will apparently be held on a Friday, as originally scheduled, those with a religious conflict will still be unable to attend. And questions were still left unanswered on the subject of scheduling important school events on Friday nights.

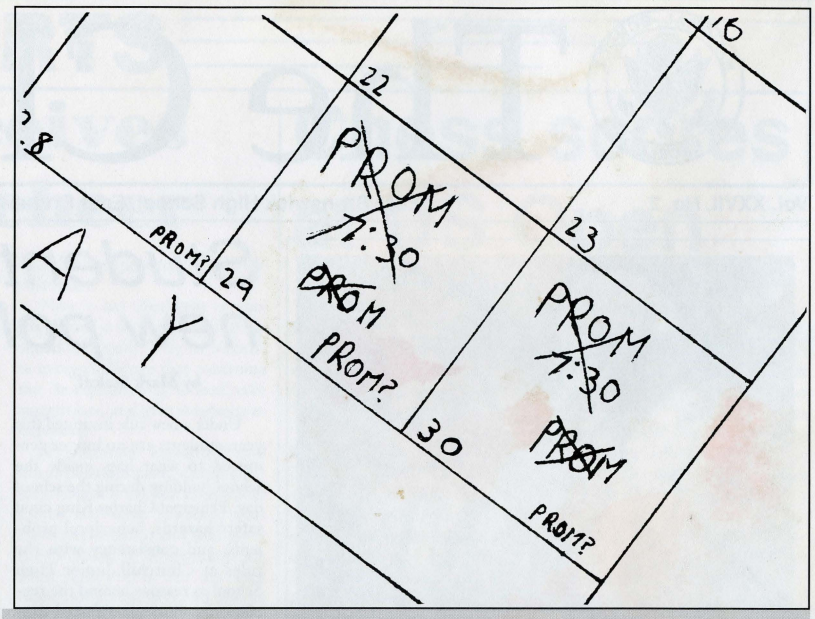
Yet, rather than dwell on the failure of changing the prom to a Thursday or Saturday night, conclusions should be drawn so that this problem will not occur in the future. If the prom had been scheduled on a Thursday, as advocated by Dr. Milton Heumann and others who wanted the date changed, a day off would have had to be scheduled the day after to ensure that there would be no attendance problems. Further, students from other schools might not be able to attend, as they would not have the next day off. This in itself could actually affect more students than would be affected if the prom were held on a Friday.

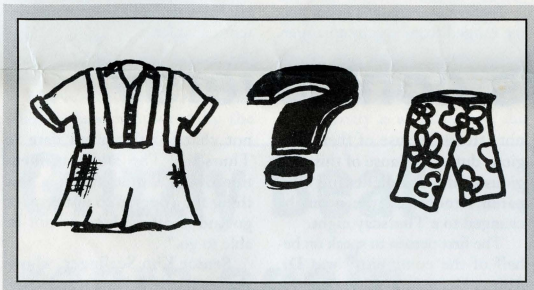
The prom could also be held on a Saturday; however, the prom would cost much more if it were, causing financial hardship for many students heading off to college.

The question remains, what should be done? The prom has been held on a Friday for a number of years, and has thus far been all but accepted. The location and date of this year's senior prom were established by the class council in conjunction with the administration. However, while the student body is allowed to vote on less important issues like prom colors and prom song, the date and location of this big event are chosen by a select few.

Thus, this question must be raised: Why isn't each class allowed to vote on a date and location for its prom? The class council could assemble a list of several possible sites and dates, with a projected cost for each one. The class could then vote on the issue.

The senior prom is a very special event, one of the highlights of high school. Everyone should be able to go to the senior prom, regardless of religion. However, while the rights of the minority must be protected, this must not be done at the expense of the majority. Thus, we feel that a vote should be taken as to the date and location of the student prom. Only through a vote of the entire class will the rights of everyone be protected and the true voice of those who are directly affected by heard.





A view from the left and right: School uniforms

School uniforms instill spirit

by Jennifer Ty

School uniforms should be required. Students in today's underprivileged society and economically bereft world should not be socially penalized by the economic standing and capability of their parents and/or guardians. Adolescents growing up in the pressure-filled world of today should not have to be concerned with their appearance, but rather their education.

School uniforms instill school spirit and a sense of belonging, rather than hatred and anxiety over the fashion statements of the day. When everyone is dressed similarly, racial and ethnic differences begin to fade.

Also, with the use of school uniforms, there is no chance for students to cause confrontation with others by wearing gang-related clothing or symbols when they should be learning. School uniforms would thus contribute to a safer and more stable environment in which youths can mature.

Expensive fad clothing may lead a young impressionable student to steal or commit crimes in order to wear what is "in" at the moment. Peer pressure is a force which can cause great anxiety to teens, and the need to conform can be great enough to cause a student to break the law. With school uniforms, much of that pressure is eliminated. If everyone is wearing the same clothing, no one feels "left out" and competition is decreased.

In the economically deprived world of today, most people spend too much of their income on unnecessary expenses such as clothing. Mandated school uniforms would put a cap on these costs. This would teach our youths to spend their money wisely and budget their incomes, as well as realize that which is truly important and necessary. Wasteful spending has damaged our national economy and our future citizens must learn management skills as well as reorganize their financial priorities.

If instituting a system of school uniforms is not economically or sociologically feasible, a dress code policy should definitely be implemented in its place. This provides the school with needed structure and discipline. School uniforms are a conspicuous example of the control that is necessary for a successful institution of learning.

School uniforms are oppressive

by Jocelyn So

School uniforms should not be required. Clothing is a form of artistic expression and a vehicle for the development of originality. We want to promote these feelings of creativity, and clothing is crucially entwined with the freedom of expression and speech.

Individuality has always been a trademark of American civilization and we should try to instill this belief in our children. They are the leaders of tomorrow.

This country was founded upon the idea of nonconformity. How can we justify forcing today's youth to submit themselves to the domineering standards established by a chosen few? All too soon, the students of today will have to succumb to the rigid ideals of the adult world, where dressing for success means adopting the facade of civilization. For now, pride in themselves and their own beliefs and ideals should be fostered. It is at this delicate juncture of their lives that the individual should be allowed to create.

Although some would suggested that school dress codes are a lesser, but necessary, evil, they are actually more destructive. A dress code gives only the illusion of choice. It restricts a student's individuality just as surely as forcing a school uniform upon a reluctant teen would.

We must teach our young people how to make their own decisions, for all too frequently they never master this skill. These decisions are then made for them by drugs, peers, and television. Today's youths must be encouraged to think for themselves and, in order for them to do this, they must be trusted to make their own decisions.

Choices concerning clothing, albeit a minor responsibility in the life of a teenager, are the first step to a mature adult. After all, this is just another way of learning to live together, of learning to adjust to one another's sensibilities, a process begun in the early elementary years of their education.

Guidelines, used to suggest and not restrict a student's choice of attire, could be instituted to appease society's notions of propriety. However, any policies concerning the student's dress must ultimately be left up to the student.

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BEARS' SPORTS

Bernbaum receives All-American cheer

by Evan Rosner

Tremendous spirit and years of hard work have helped senior Diana Bernbaum become the first "All-American" cheerleader in EBHS history.

As a recipient of this prestigious title, Diana will have the honor of participating in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. She will be a part of the opening of the parade along with 500 other "All-American" cheerleaders from around the country. They will perform a competition-type cheer/dance routine with a "Salute to America" theme.

Diana explained, "I am nervous, but, at the same time, excited about being part of the parade. It is a great experience for me."

Varsity cheerleading coach Ms. Deborah Lundin said, "I am elated that she is going to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. It is an extremely wonderful honor and she deserves it."

"I think it is great that she earned the honor of All-American. She is one of the best, and she deserves it. It is incredible to be cheerleading with her," commented senior cheerleader Jen Sabino.

The tryouts for All-American cheerleaders, sponsored by the National Cheerleading Association, were held at the Montclair State Cheerleading Camp in August. For four days, Diana and her fourteen competitors from all around New Jersey tried to outcheer, out-flip, and out-jump one another. Four of the girls, including Diana, ultimately received the All-American honor.

photo by Irene Small

Senior Diana Bernbaum was the first EBHS cheerleader to be named All-America.

Diana started cheering at age eight for the Golden Bears, part of the Pop Warner Football League. After perfecting her skills at Churchill Junior High School, she made the varsity cheerleading team as a sophomore. Ms. Lundin stated, "I know that when she first made varsity as a sophomore, she had the best potential to be All-American."

Now in her third year on varsity, Diana is the co-captain of the squad. She said, "I try to succeed in every challenge that confronts me. As captain, I try to lead, take suggestions, and give assistance to everyone."

Ms. Lundin explained that Diana possesses many special qualities. "Diana is the best cheerleader I have, skill-wise. She has a vivacious personality, and that gives her the ability to do anything. She is my right arm in that she takes charge of a situation and always puts forth 100%."

"I think Diana's best quality is her personality. She is extremely friendly and outgoing," noted senior cheerleader Anna Lemberis.

Senior cheerleader, Renee Giroux, also had nothing but praise for her captain. "Diana's best quality is her ability to handle any situation that challenges her."

When the fall cheerleading season ends, Diana stays in shape on the Varsity Diving Team. Additionally, she is vice-president of the Student Council and president of the senior class. She has also served as a delegate to Model U.N. and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Chess scores at US Open

by Judy Tsai

During the summer, senior Robbie Chess was chosen as one of the top 15 junior tennis players in the nation to play at the Junior U.S. Open at Flushing Meadows, September 2nd to 8th.

Robbie got his first taste of the Open on September 2nd, with a 2-6, 6-2, 6-4 loss to 14th-seeded Oscar Ortiz of Mexico, who had recently captured the junior singles title at Wimbledon. Robbie recovered from his defeat two days later, when he and his doubles partner, Ricky Becker, defeated the top seeded junior doubles team in the world, 7-6, 7-6. Advancing to the quarterfinals the next day, Robbie and Ricky lost 6-2, 6-3 to America's third-seeded doubles players in a tough match.

Robbie attributed their loss to the excitement of the victory the previous day. "The whole idea of playing in the Grandstand where [our] names and scores were displayed in big lights, and just the thought of playing where the pros played...was unbelievable!"

"I was more used to playing nationally and not as used to the international experience, but I think playing has helped me because it gets me used to different styles of play," he said.

To train for the junior U.S. Open, Robbie said, he "jumped 3000 jump ropes a day, worked out at the gym a lot, and practiced with [his] private coach, Tom Cuming." Senior Jason Zuckerman, who is also ranked nationally, "practiced with me all the time, playing no less than two hours a day."

Although Robbie didn't win the Open, he believes the whole experience was beneficial.

According to Jason, Robbie's "powerful serve and great volleys" are responsible for his high ranking—number one in the East.

Robbie commented that he "expects to be one of the top five in the nation by next year."

Despite all of the time that Robbie's practice schedule requires, he has still managed to maintain a 3.5 GPA. He is considering attending Harvard, Stanford, Duke, UNC, and Notre Dame, all schools reputed for both academics and athletics. "I know it's going to be tough, but I'm willing to prepare myself for what's ahead," Robbie said. "Right now I'm putting my education in front while getting ready to play professionally."

Grizzly Bear roars again

by MB Franke

The Grizzly Bear has been hibernating for the summer, but he's back and ready to roar! This year, prizes will be awarded for answering the Grizzly Bear Sports Trivia Challenge. The person who answers the most questions correctly will win passes to Brunswick Square Cinema. In the event of a tie, the winners' names will be thrown into a hat and selected at random. These questions range numerically from easiest to hardest. If you want to answer the Grizzly Bear's Sports Trivia Challenge, put your answers into an envelope, write "Grizzly Bear Sports Trivia Challenge" and your name on the envelope, and put the envelope into *The Clarion*'s mailbox in the main office. Now, as the song goes, "And now, here comes the music"—or something like that.

1) What were the Los Angeles Kings original colors?
2) What was Oscar Robertson's nickname?
3) What was the legendary drink endorsed by Yogi Berra?
4) What two teams played the first college football game?
5) What was the only other NORTHERN California NHL team before the creation of San Jose?
6) Where was the first NBA game played?
7) On Tom Dempsey's record 63 yard field goal, which team did he beat?
8) Name the Detroit Tigers pitcher nicknamed "The Bird."
9) How many polo players are on the field at one time?
10) How many Madison Square Gardens have there been?
11) How high is the Green Monster at Fenway Park?
12) Who played Babe Ruth in the original Babe Ruth movie?
13) Name the Major Indoor Lacrosse franchise in Detroit.
14) When he played in the WHA, whom did Bobby Hull play for?
15) Which baseball player hit the most lifetime home runs, but never appeared in a World Series?
16) There were two pitchers who had no victories, but were named to the All-Star team for that season. Name one of them.
17) What is "bandy"?
18) Where is the former "Checkerdome"?
19) What defunct NHL team merged with the Minnesota North Stars?
20) Name all 4 of the New York Mets' rookies of the year.

Lady harriers run to victory

by Laura Papania

The girls cross country team began its fall season with hopes of reclaiming its former Red Division Championship title. Coach James Balsamello said, "I think we're going to surprise a lot of teams in our division. We have a good core of runners and a good team captain."

With five freshmen and several walk-ons, the fifteen member squad consists of varying degrees of skill and experience. Experienced runners include seniors Rita Shah, Stephanie Pine, Tara Golden, and sophomores Jeri Behrman, Remi Cohen and Maria Lee. First year varsity runners are senior Lisa Nichols, junior Alice Sleavin, sophomore Jill Bonk, and freshman Zita Maliga.

Runners for the five-kilometer (3.1 miles) varsity race are selected based on the top seven running times from the latest race. The place of the top five runners from each team determines the score.

Last year the team finished with a record of three wins and four losses. They placed seventh in the GMC race and finished thirteenth out of twenty-one in the State Sectionals. "So far, this year is much improved," said Coach Balsamello.

"Most people don't realize how hard and rigorous this sport is. It's not very well supported because it isn't a public sport. All you see is the start and the finish; it's not very active for the fans," he stated. "These kids run in all kinds of weather, and some run with injuries. It can get painful at times. On race day they push themselves to the limit."

photo by Wendy Bessenoff

The Girls Cross Country team placed sixth in the 1991 GMC meet.

Practices are also quite strenuous. "We have to work really hard," said Freshman Zita Maliga. The team can be seen running their two hour workouts six days a week, including Saturday mornings. Practice starts with five to ten minutes of warm-up exercise to a Jane Fonda tape. Two or three times a week the girls lift weights. Practice runs vary in distance and speed; the girls average five to six miles a day. For a change of scenery, the team sometimes travels to different courses to run.

This year's captain, senior Rita Shah, serves as a leader and model for other team members. "I make sure that we act as a family. I tell them not to worry about the time and not to give up." Other duties include helping the coach with practice assignments.

Coach Balsamello noted, "It takes a special person with heart to run cross country. They have to be disciplined enough to run on their own and give their all."

Seniors Tara Golden and Stephanie Pine said, "Practice is fun. We rap and sing while running. We've even made a Cross Country Alma Mater."

Sophomore Jeri Behrman finds cross country "an enjoyable yet challenging sport."

Other members find it a very social sport. "I've always enjoyed running," comments Junior Alice Sleavin, "I get really nervous before a meet, but it's worth it when its over."